First Baptist Church, Barberton, Ohio.

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:

In January 1904, a Baptist community began to meet in the home of one of the members. The community quickly outgrew the homes, and arrangements were made so the services could be held in the Reformed Church on Sunday afternoons. It was there that the First Baptist Church was organized with 41 members on June 26, 1904.

On May 10, 1905, Rev. Irvin Darnell was called as the first regular pastor and the meeting place was change to the St. Paul Evangelical Church. Under the leadership of Rev. W.J. Thompson, the old St. Augustine Catholic Church building was bought in 1906 and moved to the corner of Sixth Street and Hopocan Avenue, the present site. It was dedicated on October 21, 1906. In 1912, an addition was constructed. The church was destroyed by fire on April 20, 1935. The present building was dedicated April 1939, and in October 1952, the educational building was dedicated.